



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

January 8, 2013
7:00 p.m.
City Council Work Room

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Mayor William Euille, Kerry Donley, Councilman Lovain, John Komoroske, Kevin Posey, Monica Starnes (to be appointed) , and Maria Wasowski

Staff Present: Carrie Beach - P&Z, Karen Callaham – T&ES, Rich Baier – T&ES, Sandra Marks – T&ES, Marti Reinfeld – T&ES, Pierre Holloman – T&ES, Jim Maslanka – T&ES, Lee Farmer – T&ES, Steve Sindiong - T&ES, Andre Stafford – DASH, Raymond Mui – DASH, Mark Jinks – CMO, Chris Bever - OMB

The Acting Chair (Commissioner Posey) called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

1. December 4, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Acting Commissioner chair Posey asked if there were any comments or edits regarding the December 2013 meeting minutes. Commissioner Donley made a motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Komoroske seconded the motion. There being no objections, the motion to approve the minutes was voted on and unanimously approved.

2. Updates To Receive

The Commission received written staff updates on the Funding Update, Potomac Yard Metrorail Station, Route 1 Transitway, and BRAC. Commissioner Donley proposed that staff develop a timeline to select an alternative for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station and forward to the Work Group before the fall hearing. T&ES Director Richard Baier gave an oral report on the King Street bike lanes project, and that the primary need for the project is that of safety. There were no requests from Commissioners to discuss any other staff updates. The Commission accepted the updates.

3. SuperNova Action Plan

Amy Inman of the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) gave an update on the Super NoVa Transit / TDM Action Plan. The region for the plan encompasses Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C., extending from Caroline and Spotsylvania Counties to

the south and Frederick and Shenandoah Counties to the west as well as parts of Maryland and West Virginia. The Action Plan defines, prioritizes, and identifies ways by which the Super NoVa Vision Plan can be implemented. Within the Action Plan, policies are broken into Planning, Transportation Demand Management (TDM), Facilities, Access To and From Transit, Operations, Technology, and Marketing and Communications. The Super NoVa Transit and Transportation Demand Management Action Plan will be made final in Spring 2014.

4. NVTa Call for Projects

In December 2013, the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) issued a Call for Projects for the first three years of the Six-Year Plan to be submitted by January 31, 2014. NVTa is only accepting projects for the remainder of FY 2014 as well as FY 2015 to FY 2016. At a later date, they will issue a call for projects for the remaining three years. In addition to the FY 2014 projects already approved for NVTa 70 percent funds, staff proposes to seek funding for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station, Transitway Corridor B, Transitway Corridor C and Real-Time Adaptive Traffic Control and Data Management System projects funding in FY 2015 to FY 2016 and FY 2017 to FY 2024. Staff's disbursement strategy is to reserve NVTa 70% funds for major capital investments with regional impacts; rely on Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Regional Surface Transportation Program (RSTP), and NVTa 30% funds for non-motorized, project development, Americans with Disability Act (ADA) improvements, and transit capital maintenance; focus NVTa 30% funds and TIP funds on operating expenses in out years; and continue to pursue discretionary grant funding for non-motorized and dedicated transitways. Staff is also seeking approval of FY2015 to FY 2016 project requests, and endorsement in concept of the FY2017 to FY 2024 project funding. Commissioner Donley proposed a motion to support staff's recommendation on the Call for Projects for FY 2015 to 2016 and FY 2017 to FY 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Komoroske, voted on and unanimously approved.

5. Transportation Management Plan (TMP) Ordinance

At its December 4, 2013 meeting, the Commission received a briefing on the proposed amendments of the zoning ordinance to update the Transportation Management Plan Special Use Permit program. Updates include removing technical language, recognizing guidelines, lowering thresholds, standardizing fund rates, update fees for non-compliance, and create and expand the City's TDM program. Citizen Poul Hertel spoke at the public hearing urging transparency as the City acts as the TMP Coordinator for smaller projects. A letter from Dina Biblin of the Stonegate Foundation Homeowners Association was also received by the Commission. Councilman Lovain moved to endorse the updates to the TMP Ordinance. Commissioner Wasowski seconded the motion which was voted on and unanimously approved.

6. Commission Updates

Commissioner Donley reported that DASH did not have a December Board meeting due to the holiday. Councilman Lovain shared that the Transportation Planning Board has asked him to fill the 2nd Vice Chair position, Chair of the Human Services Transportation Coordination Committee and the Access For All Committee which he has agreed to serve on. Commissioner Komoroske gave an update that the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the Cummings-Turner block hotel to be located at 220 S. Union Street on a vote of 6-0-1. The Commissioners welcomed Monica Starnes as the newest member of the Transportation Commission from the Environmental Policy Commission. Ms. Starnes is expected to be appointed by Council in January, and will begin serving on the Transportation Commission in

February 2014. Rich Baier stated that Joel Marcuson, Deputy Director of Transportation for the Department of T&ES has resigned.

7. FY 2015-FY 2024 CIP Update

Chris Bever of the Office and Management and Budget (OMB) reported on the ranking strategy used for CIP projects in the FY 2015 budget. As part of the budget process, a ten-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is developed programming funding for major capital projects in the City. Funding for the CIP comes from the City's general fund, grants and other non-City sources of funding including developer contributions. Staff developed the FY 2015 CIP budget priorities consistent with the Transportation Commission guidance. However, there are a number of changes based on the changes in funding this year. As a result of increased funding and a proposed change in how the TIP funding can be used, staff is able to propose a draft budget that maintains funding for all capital projects and maintains or increases funding levels for all existing programs including Complete Streets. Staff will provide a more detailed budget proposal for consideration at the Commission's February 5, 2014 public hearing during the monthly meeting.

8. Other Business

There will be a joint work session between City Council and Arlington County's Board on January 29, 2014 at a located to be determined. It was suggested that the Transportation Commission monthly meeting be changed as to not follow Planning Commission meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. The third Wednesday of the month is an option that will be explored. Due to the resignation of Chair Jennifer Mitchell and Vice Chair Josh Sawislak, there will be elections at the February meeting for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair.

There being no further business, Acting Chair Commissioner Posey made a motion to adjourn which was seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.